**Reservation for Backward Classes and Dalit Muslims**

†*216. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Justice Ranganath Mishra Commission has recommended for reservation in Government services and educational institutions for Backward Classes and Dalit Muslims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has recommended not to implement the same; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the decision taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI. A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (d) The recommendations of the Justice Ranganath Mishra Commission ( National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities) are under consideration of Government.

**High schools under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

*217. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high schools would be brought under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of primary schools under SSA in Assam;

(d) the number of schools brought under SSA purview in that State;

(e) whether any discrepancies have been reported under the SSA;

(f) if so, the steps taken to eliminate the same; and

(g) the number of primary schools serving Mid-Day Meals in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) The State Government has reported that 30,499 Lower Primary Schools and 9,779 Upper Primary Schools are covered under SSA. The SSA Programme covers the elementary education cycle only *i.e.* classes I to VIII.

(e) and (f) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report No. 15 of 2006 on Performance Audit of SSA, reported diversion of SSA funds for providing text books to ineligible category of children. This has since been recouped by Government of Assam.

(g) The number of Primary Schools serving Mid-Day Meal in Assam is 30,068 (as reported by the Directorate of Elementary Education, Assam).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.